

# The American Observer

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. -- James Monroe*

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This village in Brazil reflects the predominantly rural and agricultural life of Latin America

EWING GALLOWAY

## Latin America's Role in the War

*In connection with Pan-American Day, we are devoting most of this issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER to Latin America. The usual features will reappear next week.*

**PAN-AMERICAN DAY**—the Day of the Americas—is observed on April 14 of each year. Its purpose is to call attention to the various ways in which the 21 American republics are cooperating with one another and to promote still greater unity among them. Schools, colleges, civic associations, women's clubs, Rotary and other service organizations, radio stations, and newspapers all over the country take part in observing Pan-American Day. Schools participate by giving special study to Latin America, by staging plays and pageants, and other such activities.

Pan-American Day takes on new significance this year, for these countries are working in closer harmony than ever before. They are engaged in a great common cause—the defeat of the Axis forces of tyranny. All but one of the American republics

have either declared war on the Axis nations, or have broken relations with them. Only Argentina stands aloof and clings to her neutrality.

While it is true that the United States is by far the most highly developed and powerful of the American republics, the combined strength of our friends to the south cannot be lightly dismissed. They are helping us in countless ways to bring about the defeat of Germany, Italy, and Japan.

From a military standpoint, these countries were in much the same position as we were before the war began. For the most part, they were peacefully inclined and did not build up their armed forces to the extent that would have been possible had they realized the danger earlier. But today they are considerably stronger than they were before the war, and they are increasing their armed strength all the time.

Every possible form of military cooperation is being worked out between these countries and our own. Mexico, for example, has permitted

us to build airfields on her territory, and her armed forces are concentrated in the area of Lower California. With strong Mexican forces guarding this region, all along the exposed area south of our own border, our own defensive position is greatly strengthened and it will be difficult indeed for invaders to make a landing and establish a beachhead at this point.

The Central American republics—Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama—are serving as air, naval, and land bases for the protection of the Panama Canal and for Allied ships in the Caribbean. Although the armed forces of all these nations are small, they nevertheless make up a considerable force as a whole and thus make it unnecessary for us to send as many troops to that region as would otherwise be essential. Furthermore, these countries have permitted us to build numerous airports on their territory and to fortify their lands in other ways.

The Caribbean lands—Cuba, the

Dominican Republic, and Haiti—are working with us in much the same manner as the Central American countries. With our help, they have become heavily fortified and are invaluable in helping to safeguard the Panama Canal and Caribbean shipping routes.

In South America, our main military assistance is coming from Brazil. It is the largest of the countries on that continent, and it is the only one that is formally at war with the Axis. Brazil's small but effective navy is helping to safeguard shipping in the South Atlantic. Many airfields are being built on her land. She is raising an increasingly large army, and is turning out a considerable number of air pilots. Brazil is throwing her entire military support behind the cause of the United Nations, and is working in the closest possible cooperation with our country. Her role is of the greatest importance.

Ecuador has permitted us to fortify the strategically important Galapagos Islands, which, if seized by Japan,

(Concluded on page 7)



WATSON FROM GENDREAU

Village Life



GALLOWAY

Mt. Aconcagua in Argentina—22,835 feet

## The Vast Lands of Latin America

**S**OUTH of the Rio Grande, on the other side of the river which follows a muddy course along the southern edge of Texas, Latin America begins. As you cross the border and proceed southward another world comes into view. The sky takes on a bluer color, plant life is not the same, animals are different.

Latin America is almost three times the size of the United States and takes up about half of the entire Western Hemisphere. It is difficult to imagine the size of this vast region. Brazil alone is larger than the United States proper and has the longest seacoast of any country in the world. Even "little" Uruguay is larger than England. The coast of Chile is as long as the Atlantic Ocean is wide.

Although the tip of South America reaches almost to the Antarctic, the greater part of Latin America is situated in tropic or semi-tropic zones. The climate is generally hot, and it is this fact which dominates the agriculture, the industry, and the life of the region. Combined with a rich soil, it gives Latin America a tremendous capacity for production.

### Land of Future

Latin America is sometimes called the land of the twentieth century. It is one of the few remaining great regions of the world which have not been fully developed—and one of the most promising. Philip Leonard Green, in *Our Latin American Neighbors*, writes that Latin America "has more useful vegetable products than any other equal area on the globe. It was the original home of white and sweet potatoes, tomatoes, red peppers, cassava, maize, cacao, mate, cinchona, coca, sarsaparilla, cascara, tobacco, cotton, and rubber, to mention only a few. It has been estimated by some observers that if only one million square miles of Brazil were under cultivation, that region could easily feed the world."

South America produces more than tropical and semitropical products. Below the hot weather zones—in southern Brazil, in Uruguay, in temperate Argentina and Chile—the wealth of agricultural production continues. There are broad plains from which come huge quantities of

wheat and beef. Great herds of sheep in the cooler and more mountainous areas provide meat and wool in abundance.

In addition, Latin America is immensely rich in mineral resources. The Caribbean region is situated in one of the great oil-producing basins of the world. From South America comes tin, copper, gold, silver, nitrates, and other minerals of crucial importance in war and of much value in peace.

Were it not for certain factors which have in the past placed limits on the development of Latin America, the region might easily rank as one of the most advanced in the world. The limiting factors are important, however, and it is only as they are overcome that the great possibilities of Latin America can be realized.

### Limiting Factors

There is, for example, the tropical climate in many parts of Latin America which slows down the energy of man and makes him disinclined to work as hard and as steadily as in more temperate zones. The climate has also covered some of the richest areas with dense jungle growth which is an obstacle that must constantly be fought.

Then there is the mountainous character of much of Latin America. The long rib of high mountains which comes down through western Canada and the United States continues southward into Mexico and Central America. In South America, the Andes—the longest continuous mountain chain in the world, forms a "continental divide" which acts as an almost impassable barrier between east and west. Until recent times, in order to travel from western to eastern Peru, it was easier to go around through the Panama Canal and up the Amazon than to cross the mountains which divide the country.

### Lack of Transportation

Because of climate and terrain it has been difficult to construct overland transportation systems in much of Latin America. There are some railroads, and the Great Amazon and Parana river systems provide inland water communication, but many parts of Latin America have remained accessible only by burro, llama, or footpath. In recent years the airplane has brought a number of these regions within reach for the first time.

Lack of good transportation facilities has probably been the most serious handicap to the development of

Latin America, and particularly the northern two-thirds of the South American continent. It is largely for this reason, and because of the climate, that most of the people in South America live along and near the coasts. The interior is to a great extent wild, undeveloped, and in many places unexplored.

Latin America has not developed much industrially because, with all its wealth, it lacks large and well located supplies of the two minerals most necessary to industry—coal and iron. There has been a trend toward the building of new industries in recent years, but the great importance of the region lies in its agriculture and in its wealth of natural resources.

So great have been the demands for the products of Latin America that the countries have tended to specialize in the mass production of those things for which they are particularly well suited by climate and soil. Coffee from Brazil, wheat and meat from Argentina, tin from Bolivia, oil from Venezuela, copper from Chile, sugar from Cuba, bananas from Honduras—these are examples of the specialties of Latin American nations.

Such "all-your-eggs-in-one-basket" type of production has brought wealth at times, but great hardship when world markets are poor. Many of the countries are now trying to encourage a more diversified production.

### Aviation Helps

The war and the airplane are helping to speed up the development of this region. The United States is providing much-needed capital to develop Latin-American industries and to build roads. And the airplane is surmounting transportation obstacles that would otherwise take years to overcome.

Aviation provides the perfect answer to "impossible" terrain. Already sky clippers have shortened the distance from the coast to mountainous Bogota, capital of Colombia, from days of hard travel to a few hours. They fly between the towering peaks of the Andes on a regular route between Chile and Argentina. They laugh at the tangled jungles of Brazil. They carry mining machinery, livestock, passengers, and mail to the most remote places.

Tomorrow they will multiply what they are now doing a hundredfold, and Latin America will enter the day of its great opportunity.



ACME

Drying coffee beans in Brazil



SCREEN TRAVELER FROM GENDREAU

The capitol at Havana, Cuba





JACOBS FROM THREE LIONS, BLACK STAR, ACME, PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, GARRISON, MARTIN  
Latin America presents a contrast of faces—people of Spanish and Portuguese descent, Indians, Negroes, and many mixtures.

## The People of Latin America

It is always hard to describe the people of a country or a continent, because there are so many different types. A foreigner who undertook to tell about the people of the United States would be confronted by that difficulty. The people who live in the exclusive residential sections of the great cities differ greatly from families who dwell in the slums. The city workers are different in many ways from the farmers of the Middle West or the sharecroppers of the South. About one-tenth of all Americans are Negroes, and most others are whites of various nationalities. Yet all these diverse groups are Americans.

It is even harder to describe the people of Latin America because we have to consider 20 separate nations as well as variations within each country. If one visits the larger cities of Latin America, he is likely to be impressed by the fact that they are very similar to our cities, and that the people, after all, are very much like the people of the United States.

### Like Our Own

The larger Latin American capitals are modern cities very much like our own. This is true of Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Santiago, Lima, Rio de Janeiro, and a good many others.

The people one sees on the streets of Buenos Aires are not very different from those one would find on the streets of Chicago or Philadelphia.

In Santiago, Chile, the same thing would be true, except that the people, being mainly of Spanish stock, are somewhat darker in complexion.

Rio de Janeiro would remind one more of the cities of our South, since a large proportion of the population is Negro. The city itself is, in many respects, more beautiful than any of ours.

In Quito, capital of Ecuador, and La Paz, capital of Bolivia, the situation is different. The populations of these cities are largely Indian, and though there are modern shops and buildings, the general appearance is much less modern than in such cities as Buenos Aires.

As one goes from the cities to the smaller towns and villages and the farming country, he will find the differences between these sections and similar sections in the United States are more marked. In Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela,

Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, there are many Indians in the interior. For the most part they are poor and their standards of living are very low. They do not live very differently from the way their ancestors did many generations ago.

Industry throughout Latin America is less developed than in the United States. There are fewer manufacturing cities, and the number of factory workers is smaller. The countries are agricultural to a far greater extent than the United States is.

In the farming districts, the people, as a rule, have low standards of living. In few places does one find independent farmers owning relatively small farms. In most of the Latin American countries, the agricultural land is held in large tracts by wealthy landowners, and the actual work is done either by hired farm laborers, as in most of Argentina, or by farmers who live on little tracts and eke out a miserable existence, as do the sharecroppers in our own South, and in certain other parts of this country.

One who travels about in South America will find few families who are worse off than the poorest of our slum dwellers and sharecroppers, but the very poor of South America form a much larger proportion of the population than they do in this country. The middle class of substantial, well-educated, fairly prosperous, though not wealthy, people is smaller in the Latin American countries than the same groups in the United States or Canada.

### Education Standards

Fewer of the Latin Americans are well educated than is the case with our own people. This results from the fact that fewer of them are prosperous. But among the prosperous or fairly well-to-do classes, education is not very different from that which prevails here. Even in most of the more advanced of the South American countries, not more than about a tenth of the young people have a chance to go to high school, whereas almost two-thirds have that privilege in the United States.

It is not to be supposed, however, that the people of Latin America are uninformed or ignorant. If one falls into conversation with a worker or a shopkeeper of any of the Latin American countries, he will find that these people

are about as well informed as similar classes of our own country. A large proportion of the young people are learning to speak English, and one who speaks only English has no difficulty traveling any place in Central or South America. The newspapers of the larger South American cities compare favorably with those of our own larger cities.

The governments of the Latin American nations are republican in form. In most cases, the constitutions are modeled rather closely after that of the United States.

### Governments in Latin America

The governments are, however, less democratic and less stable. Revolutions occur from time to time in even the most advanced of the Latin American countries. There is always the possibility that some small group will get control of the army, turn those in charge of the government out, and establish their own rule.

The instability of government in Latin America comes partly from the fact that so few of the people are well educated. The rate of illiteracy is high. Large portions of the people pay no attention to politics. In some of the countries, these poor people are held down and often oppressed by the wealthier classes who usually have been able to control the government. In certain countries, such as Chile and Mexico, the leaders of the poorer and working classes have gained control of the government and are making radical social, economic, and political changes.

For the most part, the nationality of the upper and middle classes of Latin America is Spanish. Brazil is the main exception—it is Portuguese. In Haiti, of course, the population is almost wholly Negro.

As Latin America develops and her population becomes better educated, an increasing measure of political democracy may be expected in that part of the world. This development has already occurred in Costa Rica, and progress is being made in most of the other countries. And even today, the most dictatorial governments in that region are not nearly so harsh as the dictatorships of Europe. Though many of the people do not enjoy political rights, they are not interfered with greatly in their personal lives.





# The Story of the Week



The new memorial to Thomas Jefferson

NAT'L CAPITAL PARKS

## Memorial to Jefferson

Two hundred years ago—on April 13, 1743—Thomas Jefferson was born in a large wooden farmhouse at Shadwell, his father's plantation, near Charlottesville, Virginia. And from the time he entered William and Mary College at the age of 17, until his death in the 84th year of his life on July 4, 1826, his career held enough to fill the lives of a dozen men.

As the third President of the United States, he was the champion of the common man, planting firmly in the soil of America the democratic ideas that he had penned into the Declaration of Independence. He also had the vision of a great nation stretching from shore to shore on this continent, and doubled the size of this country by the Louisiana Purchase.

The Presidency was the climax of his long public service, which began, when he was 26, with membership in the Virginia Colonial Legislature. He was also governor of his state, and there established the principles of freedom of religion and free public education. At 38, when he thought he was through with public life, he had yet to serve in Congress; go abroad as ambassador to France; sit in Washington's cabinet as secretary of state; and hold the vice-presidency under Adams. And in 1801 he became President.

To this great American, the nation pays tribute this week, and in the capital the new Thomas Jefferson Memorial will be formally dedicated. Located not far from the Potomac River and in the neighborhood of the famed cherry trees, the circular, many-columned structure is built of shining white marble. Inside is a 19-foot statue of Jefferson, portraying him in a standing position.

## Spring in the Air

Aerial photographs, underground reports, and the Nazis' rage tell the story—that with each day of spring

the Allied air offensive is gaining momentum. The handicaps of too small an air force, the experimental raids, and the practice in meshing American Air Force and RAF operations are over. The time for large-scale, round-the-clock blows is at hand.

All Nazi-held Europe will feel the offensive. Docks, railroads, and factories producing for the German armies are frequent targets in the occupied countries. But the favorite targets of pilots and bombardiers are those within the boundaries of Germany itself, and they especially relish the attacks on Berlin, which received its sixtieth raid of the war last week.

## A Tunisian Dunkirk?

Last week the forces under Marshal Rommel were slowly retreating northward up the narrow corridor of eastern Tunisia—a corridor less than 400 miles long which passes through low flat country varying in width from 25 to 50 miles. Every step of the way the Axis forces were pounded heavily by the tanks, planes, and artillery of the combined French, British, and American troops.

Rommel's job is to delay the Allies as long as possible from clearing the Tunisian theater, while Hitler rushes feverishly to strengthen his defenses in "fortress Europe." Now that the Axis marshal has lost Gabes and the Mareth Line, no one knows whether he will continue to make strong rear-

guard attacks or whether he will retreat to the concentrated defense positions of Tunis and Bizerte. He has at his command an estimated 200,000 men and 1,300 planes, plus reinforcements which continue to run the Allied gauntlet in the Mediterranean, and whatever his strategy he will put up a stiff battle before giving up the Tunisian bridgehead.

There has been much speculation about a possible evacuation from Tunisia as at Dunkirk. Reports that the Italian fleet has been placed under German command and that the Nazis are commandeering all available French shipping add fuel to the speculation. Possible escape routes from Tunis or Bizerte might be to Sardinia, to Sicily, or to Naples. It is worth noting by comparison that the shortest of these routes is 130 miles long, more than three times as far as from Dunkirk to England, and that at Dunkirk the British had the full advantage of naval superiority as well as of local air superiority. The Germans can claim neither of these advantages in the Mediterranean.

## Food Conference

Between now and the end of the war there will be a number of important conferences held among the United Nations to discuss a multitude of problems related to the peace and the stable world which we hope to build. As a sort of dress rehearsal, the first of these conferences will be held somewhere in the United States beginning April 27. The subject is that of the postwar food problem, apart from the more immediate question of relief. Representatives of the 38 governments which have been invited will discuss ways and means of improving nutrition and food production in the countries involved.

Already a number of these nations, including Russia, Britain, and China, have accepted the invitation. Particular satisfaction is being expressed at Russia's acceptance, for it is one more indication of Russia's willingness to cooperate in building the postwar world.

Although this conclave will deal

only with one of the least controversial of the postwar problems, it nevertheless is viewed as an important step in the direction of reaching understandings and working agreements among the Allies while the fighting is still going on.

It has been announced that the press will not be admitted to this conference, but that official announcements of the progress of the meetings will be made from time to time. Some criticism has been expressed by American journalists on the grounds that this is unwarranted censorship. The government, however, declares that since the conference is to deal with vital long-range problems it is desirable to avoid premature discussion and criticism in the press.

## Billions More

Today, April 12, the United States Treasury is setting in motion another gigantic war bond drive, with a goal



"Home to roost"

VICKY IN LONDON DAILY NEWS-CHRONICLE

of \$13,000,000,000 to be raised in the next three weeks. The last "special" campaign, in December, sailed past its goal of \$9,000,000,000, and the present drive is expected to go through without a hitch, too.

It will, that is, if everyone follows the Treasury's suggestions:

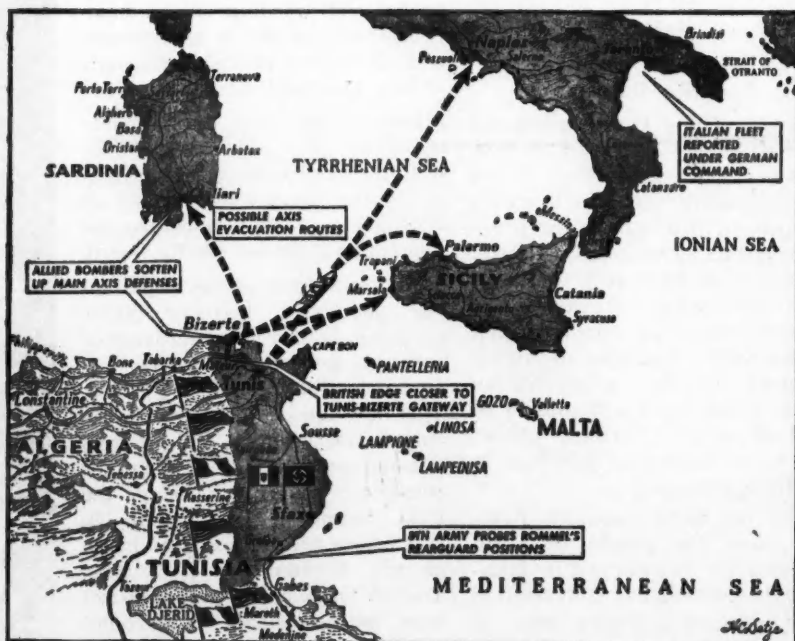
1. Put into the purchase of bonds and stamps every last cent not absolutely needed for food, clothing, and shelter during the next three weeks.
2. Purchase at least one extra bond or some extra stamps for that period.
3. Pass up some of the things you have planned to buy.
4. Buy more bonds and stamps than you have pledged yourself to buy.

These intensive campaigns are necessary from time to time because the regular monthly purchases of stamps and bonds do not bring in enough money to finance the war.

## Pay-As-You-Go Taxes

There was still no pay-as-you-go tax law on the books last week. Since late last January there have been long weeks of testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee, and stormy debates both in the committee and on the floor of the House. It has been one of the most spectacular battles on Capitol Hill for some time.

The original Ruml plan, which was proposed to forgive and forget 1942 taxes so that taxpayers could pay their 1943 levies out of current income, was opposed on the grounds that it would benefit large taxpayers and would lose money for the Treasury. Several alternate plans were proposed which in one way or another would remedy these "defects." But when the time came for voting, a small majority



COURTESY PM

## The American Observer

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united to defeat the proposals, as well as a bill providing for a withholding tax, and sent the whole problem back to the committee for further consideration. There the matter stood last week—just where it had started.

It now appears possible that no further consideration may be given to this problem until the matter of collecting \$16,000,000,000 in new taxes comes up for consideration next June or July. In the meantime the second quarterly installment of 1942 taxes must be paid on June 15.

## Neutral Portugal

"Portugal in a warring world is like a tiny sailing boat trying to ride through a terrific storm with the least possible damage."

Thus does the New York Times characterize one of the few neutral nations on the continent of Europe. Indeed, so far Portugal has been able to stay out of the war, but she has found that modern interdependence of nations has made it impossible for her to escape the effects of the war. In the Far East, her colony of Timor lies in the hands of the invading Japanese. At home, her domestic economy has felt the impact of war just as surely as if she were a combatant.

During the last three and a half years the cost of living in Portugal has gone up more than 50 per cent. This has resulted in particular hardship, for the government has forbidden increases in salaries. There are severe shortages in many products—long lines of people form in the cities waiting to buy charcoal, olive oil, soap, candles, and so on.

Although she is not at war, Portugal has been forced to maintain a large army and to keep strong reinforcements in her colonies—Angola and Mozambique in Africa, and the Azores, Cape Verde, and Madeira Islands in the Atlantic. Meanwhile she continues to sell her tungsten and tin and canned fish to the outside world, hoping that she can continue to ride out the storm.

## Distrust of Russia

Two prominent voices have been raised recently in favor of stronger and friendlier relations with Russia. One is the March 29 issue of *Life* which is devoted entirely to the subject of Russia. This issue is to be highly recommended as a valuable, accurate sketch of the Russian people, their history, their experiment with socialism, and their war effort. Particularly is the magazine highlighted

by an article written by Joseph E. Davies, former United States ambassador to Russia.

During his stay in Russia, Mr. Davies learned more about the country and came closer to the Russian leaders than almost any other American in recent years. Although he is a staunch advocate of capitalism, Mr. Davies acquired a tremendous respect for the Russians. In his article Mr. Davies strongly emphasizes that Russia is willing to cooperate in establishing permanent peace.

The other voice raised in Russia's behalf is that of Gardiner Cowles, prominent official of OWI. He points out that American prejudice and distrust of Russia have been based on the supposition that the Soviet Union is still trying to stamp out religion, that it wants to impose communism on the rest of the world, and that it has no use for private property. None of these are true any longer under the Stalin regime, says Mr. Cowles. "Russia wants just what the United States wants—security and peace."

## Strike Threat Lifted

Last week the threat of a coal strike no longer hung over the nation. Both the Southern and Northern operators and the miners had agreed to continue negotiations through April, and President Roosevelt had turned the dispute over to the United States Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor. Dr. John R. Steelman, who is handling the case, is one of America's most successful negotiators in labor disputes, and enjoys the confidence of both labor and industry.

Meanwhile two new developments have appeared on the horizon. Thomas L. Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers Union, has resigned from his post as one of the four labor members of the War Labor Board. This resignation is viewed partly, at least, as a protest against the Little Steel Formula, to which all four of the labor members of WLB have objected recently.

In addition, as we go to press there is some likelihood that the WLB may assert its authority over all labor disputes by taking over the coal dispute immediately, without waiting for the present negotiations to be finished. This action would be taken as an answer to John L. Lewis' attacks on the board. The board would eventually have to pass on any wage increases anyway. However, Lewis has denounced the labor board as "a court packed against labor" and has indicated that he and his miners might refuse to appear before it.



LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS. Top row (left to right): Getulio Vargas of Brazil, Fulgencio Batista of Cuba, Manuel Avila Camacho of Mexico. Bottom row: Juan Antonio Rios of Chile, Isaias Medina of Venezuela, and Ramon S. Castillo of Argentina.

## Latin American Leaders

**A**MONG the many prominent leaders in Latin America today, the following six heads of governments are probably the best known:

**Getulio Vargas**, President of Brazil, is for all practical purposes a dictator, although he dislikes being called one. Just as he came into office 13 years ago by a revolution, he has sometimes had to put down revolts that threatened him. But his rule over the masses of people has not been harsh, and he is popular with the majority of his countrymen. Now 60 years old, he has brought about much progress in Brazil, and is one of the United States' best friends in all Latin America.

**General Manuel Avila Camacho**, President of Mexico since 1940, is a steady, cautious, efficient type of man. He, too, is a firm friend of the United States. Before seeking the presidency, he was a professional soldier and later secretary of war. A husky man, he is 45 years old.

**Juan Antonio Rios**, the tall, gray-haired President of Chile, took over the reins of government only last year. Although he leans toward a policy of friendship with the United States, his country hesitated in gaining the enmity of the

Axis nations and therefore waited a considerable time before breaking relations with them. A lawyer by training, Rios is 55 years old.

**Fulgencio Batista**, Cuba's 42-year-old President, came from a desperately poor family. But he entered the army, educated himself, and won a following among other soldiers that enabled him to engineer a revolution in 1933. After that he controlled the country, and became President himself in 1940. He sincerely tries to help Cuba's downtrodden, and he works hard for the best possible relations with the United States.

**General Isaias Medina**, President of Venezuela since 1941, is a professional soldier, 45 years old, and has cooperated with the United States in the war.

**Ramón S. Castillo**, thin, white-haired President of Argentina, was once a lawyer and a judge, and is best described by his nickname *El Zorro* (the Fox). He became President last year, after serving for some months as acting President during the long illness of President Roberto Ortiz. Now 70, he fights to preserve Argentina's policy of "neutrality," which on the whole is marked by unfriendliness toward the United States.

**Getulio Vargas**—jeh-tool'yo vahr'-gahs

**Manuel Avila Camacho**—mahn-wel' ah'vee-lah kah-mah'choe

**Juan Antonio Rios**—hwahn' ahn-toe'nee-oe ree'os

**Fulgencio Batista**—fool-hain'see-oe bah-tees'tah

**Isaias Medina**—ee-sah-ee'ahs may-dee'nah

**Ramón Castillo**—rah-mohn' kahs-teel'yo

**Roberto Ortiz**—roe-bair'toe oer-tees'

## SMILES

**Salesman:** "A piano, sir? Now here's a grand piano. . ."

**Movie Producer:** "No, grand is not good enough. Let me see one that is magnificent." —MONITOR

**"Brown asked me to lend him some money. Do you know anything about him?"**

**"I know him as well as I know you. Don't lend him a cent."** —SELECTED

**Chief:** "Did you get the woman's fingerprints?"

**Detective:** "Yes, chief, we got them from her husband."

**"How in the world did you do that?"**

**"Easy. She'd kept him under her thumb for years."** —ATLANTA TWO BELLS

**Scared Patient:** "Oh, doctor, I'm afraid I'm going to die."

**Doctor:** "Nonsense, that's the last thing you'll do." —WALL STREET JOURNAL

**"Why, sometimes I'm taken for my own daughter."**

**"Nonsense! You don't look old enough to have a daughter so old."** —SELECTED

**"To make shoes last a long time, keep them in a dry closet,"** advises a government bureau. That'll do it, all right. Shoes won't wear out if you don't wear them out. —ST. LOUIS STAR-TIMES

**"Why do you keep looking down all the time?"**

**"Because the doctor told me to watch my stomach."** —CASLON COMMENTS

**Washington's new title for Ship-builder Henry Kaiser:** Sir Launchalot. —READER'S DIGEST

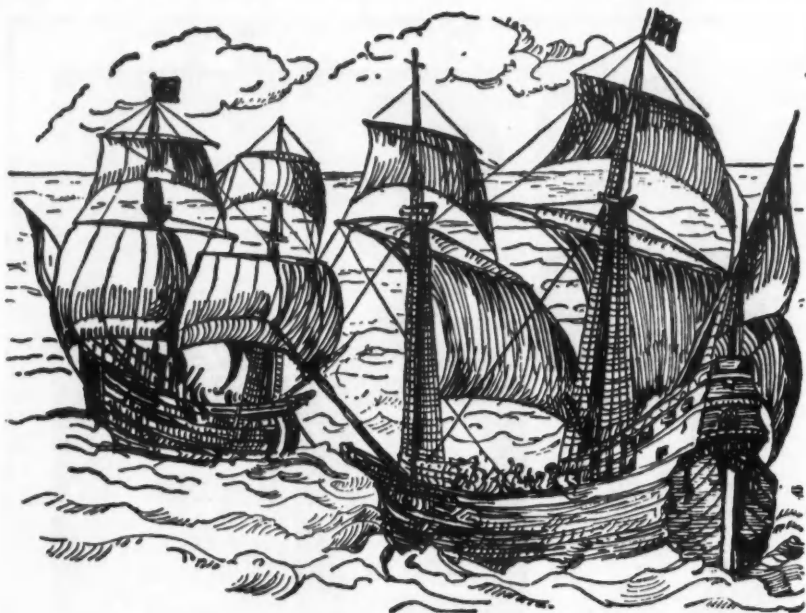
**"Who was that you were talking to for a whole hour at the gate?"** asked the husband.

**"That,"** replied his wife, "was Mrs. Smith; she hadn't time to come in." —SELECTED



THE SUPREME COURT, all new members present, poses for its latest picture. Seated (left to right): Associate Justices Reed, Roberts, Chief Justice Stone, Associate Justices Black and Frankfurter. Back row: Associate Justices Jackson, Douglas, Murphy, and Rutledge.





Two ships of Columbus

(The illustrations on this page, with the exception of the drawing of Simon Bolivar, are from "Half a Hemisphere," by Delia Goetz. Harcourt, Brace.)

## A Rich History

**T**HE history of Latin America is rich in pageantry and drama. Though less familiar than the history of Europe or of our own country, it is as colorful as the history of any region of the earth. Its beginnings are wrapped in legend, and there are many gaps yet to be filled in. Even in more modern times, it is not always remembered that it is much



Simon Bolivar

older than our own. Long before the English settlers came to North America, for example, more than 200 Spanish cities and towns had been built, 15 of them later to become capitals of present-day Latin American republics.

Eight institutions of higher learning had been established before the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. It is also well to remember that before the arrival of Europeans in the New World, a high degree of civilization had been achieved by many of the Indian groups. The origins of these Indians are still not clear, although the most widely accepted theory is that they came from Asia, perhaps across the Bering Strait, whence they moved southward until, by the time Columbus reached the Western Hemisphere, they were scattered over both continents.

Although the historical development of the Indian civilizations is not fully known, there is sufficient information to reveal that at least three of the groups—the Mayas, the Aztecs, and the Incas—had gone far in the development of the arts, crafts, and other fields of civilization.

The Mayan civilization was concentrated in the Central American countries and northern Mexico. In Yucatan, part of which is under the political control of Mexico and part in present-day Guatemala and British Honduras in Central America, remnants of Mayan civilization are today numerous and afford a rich mecca for archeologists. By the time of the Spanish conquest, however, Mayan civilization had passed its peak and was on the decline.

When Cortes reached Mexico in 1520, the Aztec civilization was in full bloom. And it was a brilliant

civilization, its influence spreading far and wide. The third Indian civilization, the Inca, at one time ruled over a vast area in South America, including present-day Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, as well as northern Chile and Argentina. The splendor of the Inca can still be seen in ruins in such places as Cuzco, Peru, which was capital of the ancient empire.

Much of the history of Latin America is the history of struggle between the original Indian inhabitants and the European conquerors, Spanish and Portuguese. The conquest began shortly after the discovery of the New World and brought fame to such men as Balboa, Cortes, and Pizarro. From the islands of Cuba and Hispaniola (Haiti and Santo Domingo), the conquistadores set out for the mainland. The conquest of Mexico, and of Central and South America is one of the most dramatic episodes of history; it is also one of the most bloody. In less than a century, Spanish and Portuguese explorers had covered the full length of the American continents, on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides.

In many ways, the conquest of Latin America differs markedly from that of the northern American continent. The Indians who lived in North America were more nomadic and primitive. They had not developed a very high civilization. They eked out an existence by fish-



Balboa claims the Pacific for Spain

ing and hunting and tilling the soil when it was necessary to do so. All but a few of the North American Indians were subdued as the settlers moved ever westward.

The Spaniards, on the other hand, discovered great empires and cities ready to be exploited for their personal gain and the glory of the mother country. Many of them married Indian women. The children of such marriages are known as *mestizos* and are to be found throughout Latin America today, recalling this early blending of races.

During the colonial period of Latin American history, Madrid rigidly controlled her overseas possessions. The Latin Americans suffered many abuses. They were denied all the privileges of self-government, were allowed to trade with no one except the mother country, and were forbidden to manufacture any goods which might compete with those produced in Spain. There was practically no freedom of thought. The Spanish colonies were maintained exclusively for the riches they could provide for Spain.

It was this restrictive colonial policy which was primarily responsible for the great revolutionary wars which swept over Latin America during the early nineteenth century. The fires of revolution had been smoldering for decades before they burst into open flame.

The Napoleonic Wars in Europe offered the Spanish colonists their opportunity to sever their ties with



News of the invaders reaches the Emperor of the Incas

Spain. Like Hitler, Napoleon had occupied much of the continent of Europe and had placed Spain under his control. The government was crushed and it could not keep the American colonies in line.

The revolutionary wars lasted for some 15 years and the Spanish flag was not finally hauled down from South America until 1826.

The name of Simon Bolivar will always be connected with the revolutionary wars and the liberation of South America. Bolivar has, indeed, been called the "Liberator" of South America. It was largely through his leadership that the northern countries of South America won their independence. In the south, San Martin raised an army of Argentine and Chilean patriots, the latter under O'Higgins, who later became the head of the first independent Chilean government.

The revolutionary wars were fought under almost unbearable hardships. Both Bolivar and San

Martin led armies across the Andes. They fought in mountains, jungles, and deserts. When independence was finally won in Spanish America, eight republics were set up—Paraguay, the Argentine Confederation, Chile, Great Colombia (including present-day Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador), Peru, the United Mexican States, the Central American Federation, and Bolivia. Brazil, the only Portuguese colony, had broken her ties with the mother country in 1822.



San Martin in the Andes

But independence did not bring peace and security to Latin America. Much of the history since the revolutionary wars has been marked by internal strife and external war. One of the obstacles to stability was failure to agree upon the type of government to be established. Dictatorships or semidictatorships flourished in many of the countries. Most of the republics were not ready for democratic government inasmuch as the populations had been oppressed by centuries of exploitation and they completely lacked experience in self-government.

From the beginning, the United States was interested in the success of the Latin American wars of independence. In 1823, before freedom was finally won, the Monroe Doctrine was proclaimed and the United States firmly warned the European powers to keep their "hands off" the Western Hemisphere. Little by little, the edifice of cooperation among all the 21 republics was built.

It was Bolivar who first dreamed of a program of close cooperation among the American nations. He wanted to organize a great Pan-American commonwealth, and in 1826 called a conference of the nations to be held in Panama City. The conference itself was a failure. Our own delegates arrived after the conference had adjourned and nothing was done to establish closer ties among the nations.

Bolivar's dream, however, inspired later statesmen on both sides of the Rio Grande. More than 60 years later, Bolivar's scheme began to materialize. In 1889, another conference of the American republics was called in Washington and a Bureau of American Republics was set up. This was the forerunner of the Pan-American Union. Although a modest beginning, this initial conference was the first of a series and marked the beginning of a vast program of cooperation which has become a model for the world and which is today bearing fruit of inestimable value.



# Western Hemisphere and the Future

**T**HERE is much discussion about the future of Latin America, and particularly about the relations which will be maintained in the years to come between the United States and our neighbors to the south. Before the present war, Latin America was actually tied more closely to Europe than to the United States. For one thing, she is closer to the European continent. Secondly, there was less competition between the South American republics and the countries of Europe in their commercial relations. Finally, Spanish is the language of most of Latin America, with the principal exception of Brazil, where Portuguese is spoken.

The Second World War, however, is bringing the American republics much closer together in trade, culture, and interest. To what extent this trend will continue after the fighting ceases will depend upon conditions in Europe and Asia, as well as upon trade and other arrangements which are worked out in this hemisphere.

If Latin America's rich resources are extensively developed, it will be possible for her to carry on greatly increased trade with the United States and with the rest of the world as well. But difficulties remain to be overcome and they must be faced realistically.

The principal obstacle to future progress is poverty. Most South Americans are tragically poor. The Indians of Ecuador, Colombia, and Peru, the sharecroppers of Chile, the ranch hands of Argentina, the Negro laborers of Brazil do not have much money to spend and cannot buy great

quantities of goods from the United States or elsewhere. If the South American market is to be greatly developed, the standards of living on that continent must be raised above their present levels. This is also true of the standards of living in Mexico and Central America.

Living standards can be raised if

to encourage the development of transportation systems and the establishment of factories of all kinds in South America. If this is to be done in the near future, it must be done largely with capital from the United States.

The Latin Americans welcome help of this kind, but, at the same time,

If we are willing to invest money, knowing that the control of the industries will be held in the Latin American countries, there may be a very decided development of industries of many kinds. In the long run, this will give the Latin Americans a higher standard of living, and will enable them to buy our goods.

There are many evidences that the Latin Americans are more friendly to the United States than they have been in the past. The "good neighbor" policy, designed to prove that we had no imperialistic designs upon Latin America, has brought encouraging results. Even in Argentina, where the government has been hesitant to cooperate fully with us, the majority of the people are sympathetic with the United Nations.

Interest in the United States is growing. More and more, the Latin Americans are listening to radio programs from this country. They have always had our movies. An increasing number of our books are translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

There is a prospect, then, that if we are generous and tactful in our efforts to develop Latin America, the future will find all the Americas cooperating more closely. There is no prospect, however, that the Americas can live in peace or prosperity by building a wall about the two continents, and by refusing to trade and associate with the rest of the world. A narrow policy of hemisphere isolation may do more harm than good, but there is real promise in increasing hemisphere cooperation which fits into a larger world plan.



The airplane is bringing the Americas closer together

the nations south of the Rio Grande become more highly industrialized; if factories are built so that the masses of the people can have profitable employment; if educational opportunities expand, and if railroads, highways, and other means of transportation are constructed and improved throughout the continent.

With these thoughts in mind, the United States government is trying

they are somewhat suspicious of it. They are afraid that it may mean a large measure of control of their countries by the United States. They will insist that such a development shall not occur. They will insist that their own people manage the factories that are built, and that their own people be employed in them. They will not tolerate North American control.

## Latin America's Role in the War

(Concluded from page 1)

would enable that country to use them as steppingstones for an invasion of South America. Thus, Ecuador is actually lending important military assistance to the cause of the United Nations.

There is much secrecy, of course, as to ways in which other South American nations are aiding our armed forces. It is reported, however, that certain of the northern countries on that continent—those closest to the Panama Canal—have granted us the right to build airfields within their borders.

On the political front, the South American countries have lent invaluable aid to the cause of the United Nations. By breaking off diplomatic relations with the Axis countries they have prevented our enemies from using their soil as bases of operations for sabotage, espionage, and other activities which hinder us. With the exception of Argentina, all the South American republics have acted sternly in ousting Axis agents and in preventing them from gaining a foothold on this continent.

But it is in the economic field that Latin America is making the greatest contribution to the United Nations. We and other Allied countries are receiving a long list of vital minerals and agricultural products from Latin America. Our war factories could not operate at their present rate of speed if it were not for the large quantities of chromium, manganese, aluminum, asbestos, platinum, vanadium, tin, copper, nitrates and other minerals which are vital to our war

production and which are not available elsewhere.

Gratifying results have come from the economic cooperation between the United States and Latin America. The Bureau of Economic Warfare, among other war agencies, has been going ahead, largely unnoticed, in mobilizing the resources of the hemi-

sphere for war. It has sent its experts into the Latin American countries to help in the development of products which we must have and which are not available from other regions. It has inaugurated a program of purchasing certain products in order to prevent them from falling

into the hands of the Axis, even though we have not needed those products. When the full story of economic cooperation among the nations of the Western Hemisphere is eventually told, it will be remarkable for its contribution toward winning the war.

It is impossible to mention all the

of various kinds come from the Latin American countries.

Not only are we importing large quantities of all these products, but many of them are being shipped directly to the fighting fronts of the world, to England, North Africa, and the Pacific. Furthermore, our soldiers who are stationed throughout Latin America are furnished much of their foodstuffs from production on the spot.

Even Argentina, which has refused to join the rest of Latin America in breaking relations with the Axis, is supplying England and Africa with great quantities of meat and other foods for our fighting men and those of our Allies. It must be said, however, that the advantages derived from Argentina's help in the economic field is largely offset by her refusal to sever all ties with the Axis. There is considerable evidence to show that the activities of Axis agents on Argentine soil are extremely harmful to the cause of the United Nations, especially to our shipping in the South Atlantic.

With this one exception, the American republics are united as they have never been in protecting their common interests. It is generally agreed that a majority of the inhabitants of Argentina are sympathetic with the Allied cause, and perhaps their government may yet see fit to join the rest of the countries of the Western Hemisphere in the common struggle against the ruthless forces of tyranny and aggression.



Mexican cavalrymen help to guard the Western Hemisphere



<div>MEXICO</div> <div>POP: 19,546,135</div> <div>AREA: 758,258 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Gold, silver  Lead  Copper</div>	<div>HONDURAS</div> <div>POP: 1,107,859</div> <div>AREA: 46,332 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Bananas  Gold, silver  Coffee</div>	<div>CUBA</div> <div>POP: 4,227,597</div> <div>AREA: 44,164 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Sugar  Tobacco  Manganese</div>	<div>HAITI</div> <div>POP: 2,600,000</div> <div>AREA: 10,700 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Coffee  Sugar  Sisal</div>	<div>DOMINICAN REP</div> <div>POP: 1,655,779</div> <div>AREA: 19,325 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Sugar  Cacao  Coffee</div>	<div>COLOMBIA</div> <div>POP: 8,701,816</div> <div>AREA: 439,828 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Coffee  Gold  Petroleum</div>
<div>GUATEMALA</div> <div>POP: 3,319,529</div> <div>AREA: 48,290 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Bananas  Coffee  Chicle</div>	<div></div>				<div>VENEZUELA</div> <div>POP: 3,839,747</div> <div>AREA: 352,170 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Petroleum  Coffee  Gold</div>
<div>EL SALVADOR</div> <div>POP: 1,787,930</div> <div>AREA: 13,176 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Coffee  Gold, silver  Sugar</div>					<div>BRAZIL</div> <div>POP: 45,002,176</div> <div>AREA: 3,286,170 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Coffee  Cotton  Hides, skins</div>
<div>NICARAGUA</div> <div>POP: 1,380,287</div> <div>AREA: 57,143 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Gold  Coffee  Bananas</div>					<div>BOLIVIA</div> <div>POP: 3,457,000</div> <div>AREA: 416,040 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Tin  Silver  Wolfram</div>
<div>COSTA RICA</div> <div>POP: 656,129</div> <div>AREA: 23,000 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Coffee  Bananas  Gold</div>	<div>ECUADOR</div> <div>POP: 3,011,062</div> <div>AREA: 275,936 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Cacao  Gold  Petroleum</div>	<div>PERU</div> <div>POP: 7,023,111</div> <div>AREA: 482,258 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Copper  Cotton  Petroleum</div>	<div>CHILE</div> <div>POP: 5,094,495</div> <div>AREA: 286,396 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Copper bars  Nitrate  Gold, silver</div>	<div>ARGENTINA</div> <div>POP: 13,518,239</div> <div>AREA: 1,079,965 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Cereals  Meat  Wool</div>	<div>PARAGUAY</div> <div>POP: 1,014,773</div> <div>AREA: 169,266 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Quebracho  Meat  Yerba mate</div>
<div>PANAMA</div> <div>POP: 631,637</div> <div>AREA: 34,169 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Bananas  Cacao  Meat</div>					<div>URUGUAY</div> <div>POP: 2,146,545</div> <div>AREA: 72,153 Sq. Mi.</div> <div>EXPORTS:  Wool  Meats  Linseed</div>